

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 217654
ORIGIN NODS-00

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DRAFTED BY: UNA:BJSHARP

APPROVED BY: UNA:JFTEFFT

S/S- TMARTIN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 217654

NODIS

FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG

FOL TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE FROM PRETORIA DTD 10 SEPT 1977

153

S E C R E T PRETORIA 4683

NODIS

DEPARTMENT PASS PARIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1, 2, 3

TAGS: PARM, SF, FR

SUBJECT: SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR PROBLEM

REFS: (A) STATE 215867, (B) PRETORIA 4369 AND 4535

1. I NOTE THAT IN PROPOSED DEMARCHE WE EXPRESSED A WILLING-
NESS TO INITIATE ACTION TO SUPPLY FUEL FOR KEOBERG BUT SAY
NOTHING ABOUT SAFARI I. I DO NOT KNOW WHETHER (A) THIS
IS A BARGAINING TACTIC; (B) WE ARE HESITANT TO PROVIDE FUEL

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IN THE NEAR TERM GIVEN THE PRESENT INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE,
WHILE SUPPLYING KEOBERG IS SUFFICIENTLY FAR AWAY NOT TO RAISE
THE SAME PROBLEMS; OR (C) THERE ARE OTHER REASONS.

2. IN ANY EVENT, IT IS MY JUDGMENT THAT THE SAG WILL NOT
MEET OUR DEMANDS ON THE BASIS OF KEOBERG ALONE. AS DEPARTMENT
WILL RECALL, VORSTER IN HIS CAPE TOWN SPEECH LISTED FOUR

AREAS HE WANTED TO DISCUSS (REFTEL B). OF THESE THE ONES RELATING TO REINSTATEMENT OR THE IAEA GOVERNING BOARD AND OTHER GB MEMBERS ACCEPTING NPT, THE SOUTH AFRICANS MIGHT BE WILLING TO LET PASS; BUT I ANTICIPATE THAT THEY WILL DIG IN THEIR HEELS ON SAFARI I AND KOEBERG. HAVING GONE PUBLIC ON THESE TWO THE WAY THE PM DID ON AUGUST 24, MAKES IT VERY DIFFICULT FOR VORSTER TO BACK DOWN. THE OTHER MORE GENERAL POINTS RELATING TO IAEA HE MAY BE WILLING TO SLOUGH OFF WITH AN APPROPRIATE EXPLANATION OF POSITION.

3. THE CHANCES OF VORSTER DOING WHAT WE ASK WILL BE ENHANCED IF WE CAN BE FORTHCOMING ON SAFARI I AS WELL AS KOEBERG.

4. FOR MY OWN BACKGROUND, WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING WHY SAFARI I WAS NOT INCLUDED IN THE DEMARCHE PACKAGE. BODLER UNQTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

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